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SUBJECT: URALS AUDIENCE WANTS MORE ON IPR

¶1. The December 22, 2008 PAS Yekaterinburg DV conference on copyright protection in education, science, and academic research proved to be wildly successful, leaving the audience clamoring for more. Professor Doris Estelle Long of the John Marshall Law School in Chicago was our U.S. expert. The Russian audience of 20 included professors and students of two major universities involved in the sphere of copyright in education: the Ural State Technical University and the Urals Law Academy.

¶2. The discussion was wide-ranging, covering economic and legal models for sharing rights on copyrighted works; laws regulating access to and use of electronic education resources; and policies of U.S. universities towards publishing education materials. The audience was particularly interested in how discoveries or works developed in university-sponsored research labs or incubators can be commercialized, and who holds the rights to these works. The audience was also interested in how cases involving internet posting without authorization can be successfully prosecuted. Other questions involved digital signatures and authentication, and the Digital Millennium Copyright Act.

¶3. Both the speaker and the audience were greatly satisfied with the professional level of the conference. The Yekaterinburg audience requested further DVCs to share experience on IPR with American specialists and proposed that the next conference be held in Spring, 2009. For this DVC they would like to invite their colleagues from Moscow universities. We believe that legal educators, legislators, and law enforcement in the Urals region would benefit from further DVCs as well as programs such as IPR roundtables.

¶4. Post appreciates the help of IIP/S in arranging the conference.

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